

# Richmond Times-Dispatch

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A WORTH-WHILE GIFT—You can make your friends happy every day in the year by sending them a subscription to THE RICHMOND TIMES-DISPATCH

2 MORE SHOPPING DAYS BEFORE CHRISTMAS  
DOING YOUR CHRISTMAS SHOPPING EARLY NOW MEANS DOING IT TODAY.

## Mary's Lamb Outdone

FROM Port Jervis, N. Y., comes a yarn that passes Mary's lamb that followed her to school, creating, as will be remembered, quite a scene. For a long time, ever since we were children, we have been led to believe that when Mary's lamb trotted down the aisle history had been brightened by an incident that would never be surpassed.

But while the Westbrook School was in session at Blooming Grove Township the other day a fine antlered buck, attracted by the warmth of the room, calmly walked in with its head lowered, made a circuit of the outside aisles and then stood before the stove in an attitude of deep reflection. As soon as teacher and children recovered their voices a scream went up. This disturbed the buck's reverie, and he left, disgusted.

It is refreshing to run across such a yarn in the news of the day. It's so much more interesting to read than the wearisome, monotonous, deadly dull stories of blood and battle.

## Training Women for War

THE fact that regiments of women in Great Britain are being taught how to be useful, in a military sense, in case of invasion is significant of the feeling that the landing of a hostile force in England is within the range of probabilities, and it is also significant of the inherent weakness of the contention that women should not be permitted to vote because they formed no part of the country's military strength. The British females are to be used as signallers, dispatch riders and field cooks. These are arduous and frequently hazardous military services. It is certain that the right sort of woman will perform such duties better than the wrong sort of man, and at least nearly as well as any sort of male.

When the war ends, those opposed to granting the suffrage to women will be hard put to it to maintain the argument that, as women cannot fight, they should not vote. This has always been a weak argument, in view of the fact that many men who, by reason of age or physical incapacity, could not bear arms have the franchise quite as much as the lustiest soldier that ever marched to war.

## Policemen Set City an Example

CONTRIBUTION by each member of the Richmond police force of a portion of his daily pay for the next three months to the relief work of the Associated Charities should furnish inspiration and example to the whole community.

Better than any other class of citizens, the police understand the extent of unemployment, the prevalence of suffering and the urgent need of help. Better than any other class of citizens, they know how wisely, and yet how tenderly, the Associated Charities deals with the pitiful cases its agents unearth, or that are brought otherwise to its attention.

Every man on the force will give 2 cents a day for three months to this cause. If other Richmond men whose means are as small as are those of the policeman would be similarly generous, the problem of relief would be solved.

Christmas is approaching. The Times-Dispatch will be glad to receive contributions and turn them over to the Associated Charities. Will not Richmond respond, as has been its generous wont, and supply the needed funds? It will be a happier Christmas for those who give, and give now.

## The Meanest Man in the World

OCASIONALLY some act comes to light of so sordid and heartless a sort as to win for its perpetrator the title of "the meanest man." But surely that description has never been so fully earned as by the two employees of the Belgian consulate in New York who stole large quantities of food and children's clothing which had been contributed by the kind-hearted for the alleviation of the dreadful plight into which the Belgian population has been so ruthlessly cast.

One of these men is himself a Belgian, past fifty years of age, and yet he could find it in his heart to take food out of the mouths of his starving fellow-countrymen and clothes

from shivering little Belgian children. The reports show that there is not a word to be said in palliation of this man's villainess. He had been in the employ of the consulate for a number of years, was receiving a sufficient salary, was fully trusted by his employers, and stole the food and clothing merely to sell them for whatever he could get.

The first impulse is to characterize such a man as insane. The belief in the essential goodness of human nature makes one recoil from the thought that a normal man could so lose humanity for a wretched little sum of money. But there does not appear to be any reason for doubting this man's sanity. He and his accomplice stole because they had the opportunity, and it did not at all bother them that their stealings constituted a crime in comparison with which ordinary theft is almost a virtue.

The law, we assume, will not take cognizance of the peculiarly atrocious quality of this crime, and the men will probably be sentenced to pay a penalty about equal to that which is imposed when a man steals food to keep his family from starving. There is, in truth, no punishment that would adequately fit the crime of these two men, particularly the Belgian. He is not alone a traitor to his country, but he is also a traitor to humanity itself.

## Don't Trifle With a Serious Problem

THE TIMES-DISPATCH hopes there is no truth in the current report that the Council Committee on Finance has determined to reduce the estimate of each city department for next year by the amount the department is allotted and expends from the \$125,000 fund for the relief of the unemployed. Any such rule-of-thumb method of dealing with the serious problem of municipal finance is bound to be unsatisfactory, and it is hardly likely that the committee will follow it.

This emergency appropriation was made for a special purpose. It was justified by its advocates very largely on the ground that there was a great amount of public work that ought to be done; that would have to be done within the next few years, and that might as well be done now. Certainly, this money, having been used to meet an emergency, must be saved in next year's budget, but the saving should be effected after a survey of the whole field of municipal expenditure.

It was expected, for instance, that part of the money would be spent for additions to the force and equipment of the Street Cleaning Department, and 150 of the men employed have, in fact, been so assigned. If, with this addition to the force, it is possible to clean Richmond's streets and remove Richmond's ashes and garbage within that reasonable time in which they ought to be removed, a needed and valuable public service will have been performed.

But the necessity for its performance will be as exigent next year as it is this. Superintendent Cohn defends the accustomed condition of the city's thoroughfares by the statement that his force is inadequate to care for them as city streets are cared for elsewhere. If that is a fact and Mr. Cohn does as well as ought to be expected, considering his appropriation, it would be consummate folly to expect him to get along with less.

What the Finance Committee should do is to scan carefully the estimates of the several departments and approve such appropriations as are needed and as the city can afford to make. Economies should be effected where they will least retard the city's progress. It is conceivable that one department head may submit an estimate grossly in excess of his department's needs, while another pares his requests for funds to the very minimum of efficiency. On the other hand, all the improvements and expansions suggested may be admittedly desirable, but require an expenditure of money in excess of the city's estimated revenue. In one case there should be reductions, and in the other there must be, but they should not be limited or determined by the amount of money spent by a particular department from an emergency appropriation in a year that has sped.

So far as the city's capacity extends, each department should get what it needs, and not one cent more. Neither, however, should it get a single cent less.

## Opportunity for Employment Bureau

THE city Employment Bureau, which will be directed by a commission whose members the Mayor has just appointed, ought to be able to perform a great public service. At any rate, it has the opportunity.

In Wisconsin, where a most efficient State bureau is conducted, thousands of positions for thousands of men are found every year. In normal times little difficulty is experienced in fitting the man to the job, except in those very numerous cases where the man is not equipped to do anything in particular. It is from such men that the real and permanent problem of unemployment is made up, and it is in the reconstruction of such economic waste material that most valuable work remains to be done. Save in time of industrial stagnation, with any sort of intelligent and benevolent co-operation, public or private, the man who can do a day's work and is willing to do it usually can find a place within a reasonable distance of his home. The other fellow, who hasn't a trade, whose muscles don't permit him to do hard manual labor, who lacks the mental and educational equipment for a place in office or store, or possessing one or all of these qualifications, has not the moral stamina to stick at anything, is the puzzle and the difficulty. What are you going to do with him?

With a public employment bureau, politically organized and inspired, the temptation of course is to shunt him off on city or State or on some public service corporation or private employer reasonably responsive to political influence. The other course is to regard him as the subject of medico-sociological study and investigation and try to do something to fit him for useful and remunerative toil.

Richmond's bureau can be almost anything it likes—either a clearing-house for decrepit political hacks and social misfits or a constructive and regenerative force in the community.

Representative Gardner says he is willing to turn over to some one else leadership of the war-scare campaign. Any one who accepts the gift will come to realize he has been handed a lemon.

National Chairman Hilles says he foresees a big Republican sweep in 1916. Mr. Hilles evidently has some experience with the stuff that dreams are made of.

A new woman's club has been discovered in operation in New York. The new woman had used it on her husband.

With 150 extra men working on them, the streets ought to be pretty clean for a while, anyway.

## SONGS AND SAWS

A Blow to Manchester.  
MANCHESTER, N. H., December 21.—This city as a whole is deeply grieved at the ruling of the United States Supreme Court that the Japanese are to be sent back to New York as prisoners. There has been a feeling of Manchester for several months, and has won a large degree of personal popularity.

Manchester's grieving sorely.  
That Harry's soon to leave,  
That he's not same as any man  
It simply can't be believed.  
He spends his ample bankroll  
With mien and manner gay,  
He stands and yields to every touch  
That halts him on his way.  
He rents a great big mansion,  
He drives a runabout—  
He is the Man in Manchester  
That makes his Chest stick out.

The Peasant's Trick.  
I can see one ray of light. If this does turn out to be a white Christmas, as appears possible, it will solve the gift problem for me. I shall present all my friends with rubber overshoes.

Making Them Useful.  
"I've just thought of a good way in which to utilize the village knockers," said the baseball fan.  
"What's that?" responded his friend. "Use them as ballast for a railroad track."  
"Not at all," he thought was to let them all get their little hammers out and then the knocker men keep time for the rooters at next season's games."

Expansion.  
Stubbs—A diplomat is a man who lies abroad for his country, is he not?  
Grubbs—Well, that is one definition of his activities. Why?  
Stubbs—Well, nothing. Only in view of recent developments I think it would be right to expand the definition and describe foreign offices as collections of diplomats who lie at home.

Strong Words.  
"What did Jones say, when you told him he was the father of triplets?"  
"Look and see if there's a policeman anywhere about. If there's not, I'll tell you."

Anything But This.  
Mary, Mary, quite contrary,  
Why don't you can that song?  
Really, Mary, no canary  
Ever sang so loud and long.  
Can't it, Mary, gentle folk,  
And learn how to beat a song.  
THE TATTLER.

## Chats With Virginia Editors

The Congressional Record is apparently no longer among the "best sellers" in the West Point neighborhood. Editor Gouldman, of the News, says of the only publication that can legitimately be called the "national newspaper": "If a country publisher resorted to a hundredth part of the fakery that has been inflicted upon the public by Congressional Record, he would be cowed and driven out of any self-respecting community." Perhaps it's the terse, crisp style of reporting speech that seems "yellow" to the West Point folks.

This suggestion to members of the General Assembly who are in favor of taking up other business besides tax legislation at the special session next month is offered by the Northampton Times: "If instead of the fool game law now on our statute books, defining the close season for goose and duck shooting on the sea, the Legislature had passed the following law they would at least have shown some responsibility to the public: 'Book agents may be shot between October 1 and September 1; spring poets, from March 1 to June 1; automobile speed maniacs, from January 1 to January 1; road hogs, from April 15 to April 15; amateur baseball players, from September 1 to February 1; war talkers—no closed season.'"

According to the Portsmouth Star: "A Frenchman has invented a lock controlled by electro magnets that can be operated from distant points." That solves the keyhole problem for the clubman and the lodgerman, who may now enter with the assistance of a friend, operating at the starting point homeward.

The Alexandria Gazette, which was born in 1784, and is consequently old enough to know better, thus seeks to put our own beloved Captain John Smith "in Dutch": "There are a number of legends in connection with Smith and the other early settlers in Virginia which some have always taken cum grano salis. His thrilling description of his rescue by Pocahontas when he was about to suffer death at the hands of her father, Powhatan, was told by Smith after the death of the alleged heroine. It is said to have been a plagiarism from a Teutonic story." To make it all the more aggravating, the Gazette reserved its unprovoked assault on the veracity of the first of the Virginia Smiths for the issue published on the 20th anniversary of the departure from London of the settlers responsible for the first families of Virginia.

The Manassas Journal relates: "A new American flag has been donated to the town by some one who has withheld their name in connection with the gift. It was raised on the flag staff of the Town Hall this week." In the same column announcement is made that Rev. Dr. H. Uroop will preach the Christmas sermon at the Presbyterian Church, but his name should suffice to disarm suspicion.

## Current Editorial Comment

Elections in Nation's Early Days  
Things were different at the first election of Congressmen 125 years ago. Madison told Washington that the election of 1789 kept the polls open for three weeks in some counties. Nearly everywhere the voting continued for many days. The law didn't set a time limit, and voters argued and debated. Some of the political managers might accomplish were to have the ballot boxes available for a fortnight. Some men whom we now look back upon as important characters of the Revolutionary period were defeated for Congress in that first trial. That old Samuel Adams "fell outside the breastworks." New York State didn't cast a vote for the first President of the United States, and during most of the original session of Congress he had no Senator. In nearly every respect that initial presidential and congressional election was far less satisfactory, and represented a much smaller percentage of the men of voting age than the election of to-day. Although Washington was chosen President, the voters didn't know they were electing him. What they did was to choose uninstructed electors, who were free to name any man they favored. But the sentiment of America was such that without direct orders from the voters every one of the sixty-nine electors gave his ballot for him who ten years afterward was designated by a fellow Virginian as first in war, first in peace, first in the hearts of his countrymen—Oklahoma Oklahoma.

The immediate cause of the federal investigation by the Federal Commission on Industrial Relations of the several great philanthropic foundations, heavily endowed by Mr. Rockefeller, is to be found in the Colorado strike and the activities of the Rockefeller Foundation in the industrial field. This huge philanthropic trust, with the income from \$100,000,000 to spend, was but recently granted a charter by Congress after its program had been subjected to severe criticism; and it has quickly attracted public attention as a going concern, by the obvious

enlistment of its officers in the Colorado labor war on the side of the Colorado Fuel and Iron Company, Rockefeller family control. In principle, these huge private endowments, with their large staffs of well-paid officials, and their self-perpetuating boards of trustees, have no shadow of right to exemption from governmental investigation and supervision in the public interest. No one, in a spirit of fairness, can believe that these trusts have been administered with motives other than the best, yet it is worth while for the Federal commission to establish at once the special investigation precedent. In the long future of the endowments, it will be an excellent precedent to have around. —Springfield Republican.

## War News Fifty Years Ago

(From the Richmond Dispatch, Dec. 23, 1864.)

The great armada, so-called, that left Hampton Roads for Southern waters and Southern territory something over a week ago has at last been explained. The explanation comes from a Northern paper that was leaked through the lines. According to the account of the Northern paper, Admiral Porter, of the United States Navy, is in charge of the water end of the movement, and the man Butler, known as the "Beast," is in charge of the land end. Butler is in charge of the forces on the transports that are sooner or later to be landed on the Southern soil for the purpose of invading the Southern territory and breaking up transportation facilities. Admiral Porter is a brave and capable man, but Butler—well, no Southern or Confederate commander fears him. If Butler ever lands him on the North Carolina coast and leaves him in his own resources, that will likely be the last of Butler.

The terrific storm of yesterday and last night, which was a regular old-time nor'easter, showing every indication of continuing for some days to come, knocked down all of the telegraph lines, upset the railroads, played havoc with schedules and in a general way cut off all sources of news.

Because of the storm and the falling down of the telegraph wires there was absolutely no war news yesterday from any point except Petersburg, and all of that came semi-officially by travelers on the railway trains, and was more or less unreliable. From these sources it was learned that with the exception of some little shelling here in the morning and a short artillery duel yesterday afternoon, either of which resulted in any perceptible damage to either side, there was nothing doing on the Petersburg front.

General Braxton Bragg, who is now in command of the Confederate forces at Wilmington, N. C., assures the War Department that he is in perfect readiness to meet Butler and his forces if they ever land, and has no fear of the noted Butler or his much-talked-of invading force.

A report that comes by mail and is at least forty-eight hours late, tells us that a force of Sheridan's infantry and artillery has come up Market, and that General Early got informed of this movement in due time, and has gone out to meet it.

The latest issue of the New York Herald received here says: "There has been a great panic among the gold buyers in gold. This morning the value of the gold market has fallen to a point below the level of the market in Georgia and Tennessee caused gold to decline rapidly. The market opened at 221, and by 10 o'clock the precious metal had declined to 211. From that time to the close of the market there was unsteadiness, and a further decline of 7 cents was recorded."

A Northern paper tells us that the only thing of importance going on in General Grant's army at present is the hanging of captured deserters and of men who are charged with wanting to desert the Federal lines. Four men were hanged in one place on the day before the report was made, five in another place and three in still another, and sixty more are known to be awaiting execution.

## The Voice of the People

Dr. MacLachlan Explains His Position.

Dr. MacLachlan, of the Times-Dispatch, writes to the Editor of the Times-Dispatch: "Sir: Referring to a report of a meeting of the Equal Rights League of Virginia, published in your issue of last Friday, I wish to correct certain false impressions that might—no doubt unwittingly—be conveyed by the same."

So far from the Council of the city being "the bugaboo of the juvenile court," it has always a good deal to do with the court and made generous allowance for its maintenance. It is not denied that the court has to work under somewhat hampered conditions, but these conditions are not due to the Council nor to Justice Crutchfield, but to the fact that the court, and who has done his utmost to make the beginning to make the court a success. Owing to the recent annexation, the work of the juvenile court is likely to be so increased in the near future that it will be necessary to provide some relief for Justice Crutchfield, though he has made no complaint, and is ready to do his duty. This need, however, seems to be recognized by everybody, and two alternatives have been suggested: either to appoint an assistant to the Police Justice, who shall have charge of the juvenile cases, together with such other cases as may be transferred by Justice Crutchfield to the juvenile court, or to divide the juvenile and Domestic Relations Court under the provisions of an act passed by the last General Assembly, which court, in addition to the juvenile cases, would have jurisdiction of all non-support cases and also of cases arising under the contributory delinquency statute. If these were done, the Police Court would be relieved of perhaps 500 cases, besides the juvenile cases pending at present.

Though no formal action has been taken, the Juvenile Protective Society of Virginia leans toward the second alternative, if for no other reason than that the Juvenile Court would thus be separated as far as possible from any purely criminal atmosphere.

I wish to add that I did not use the word "joker" in connection with the appointment of a judge under the Juvenile and Domestic Relations Court statute. Inasmuch as I was on the committee that drafted the bill, and urged its passage before the General Assembly, it is clear that it could not be a "joker."

H. D. C. MACLACHLAN,  
President Juvenile Protective Society of Virginia.

Richmond, December 21, 1914.

## Queries and Answers

License.  
Must I secure license to manufacture a toilet article and sell by agents and through the mail?  
Yes.  
M. E. W.

Unsigned Letters.  
There is a letter asking about Christmas recitations, one asking for information about the Richmond and Petersburg Railway, one asking the values of stamps and one inquiring about the value of a gold coin. The letter was made because they do not give names of writers. It has been stated time and again that the Query Column would not answer questions unless the writer's name was given. For publication the initials will do as signature or any other signature the writer may give.

## REQUIREMENT OF THE SOULS OF THE BRAVE.

Beneath the poplars of fair France,  
That stand in the shadow of the sky;  
Their sepulchre—a place of chance;  
Their shroud—the autumn sky.  
The brave, the modest, peace to them,  
Peace, and the deep gun thunder rolls—  
A monstrous organ—to their souls  
A requiem.

Their nameless graves  
Out on the hillside, by a wood,  
Or where the green-black birch waves,  
Or where a village stood,  
In the new time to come will stand  
A pilgrimage to all the land,  
By the children of the future pray,  
Or tiny children climb and play.  
They rest in peace. God's peace to them!  
And now the deep gun thunder rolls—  
A monstrous organ—to their souls  
A requiem.  
—Hardress O'Grady, in London-Chronicle.

## A 42-CENTIMETRE MISTAKE

One of the Day's Best Cartoons.



—From the New York Evening Sun.

## HAM LEWIS NOT ALL WHISKERS

No more lamentable error could be charged against the gentle reader than for him or her to assume that the whiskers of the Honorable James Hamilton Lewis—you get him as "Ham Lewis"—are his most interesting attribute. writes E. W. Townsend, in the New York Evening Sun.

On the contrary, quite otherwise. Deprived of his whiskers, if such a barefaced outrage were imaginable, Mr. Lewis would remain one of the most interesting characters in the Senate of the United States. He has both wit and wisdom, and I pass rapidly from that statement before one begins to ponder on the infrequency of the combination.

He is a rattling good debater, delivers a prepared speech with excellent taste, and is one of the few Senators who does not seem to consider it a bore to know anything about parliamentary rules and practices. Indeed, upon those occasions when he presides over the Senate, it is not his elegant carriage, which alone all observers do upon; his display of parliamentary lore equally charms and surprises.

It is as good as to say that John Drew acting the part of a courteous beau to see Senator Lewis preside over the deliberations of the Senate. The heavy air of the Senate chamber becomes electrified by his activities in the body; the gallery wakes up—also the Senate. Press correspondents leave their cushioned armchairs in their private lobby and hurry to the benches of their official box. There is a change in all things animate as in a crowd when a brass band suddenly switches from "Massa in the Cold, Cold Ground" to "It's a Long Way to Tipperary."

The Senator from Vermont arises and inquires: "Will the Senator from Georgia yield?" The Senator from Georgia yields. The Senator from New Jersey rises and inquires: "Will the Senator from Georgia yield?" The Senator from Georgia yields. The Senator from New Jersey rises and inquires: "Will the Senator from Georgia yield?" The Senator from Georgia yields.

Will he? Why the Junior Senator from Georgia would as soon think of resisting an appeal so fetchingly interlarded with the words "Will the Senator from Georgia yield?" as he would think of resisting an appeal so fetchingly interlarded with the words "Will the Senator from Georgia yield?"

It is simply itself. When the government issued a national bank note it took its equivalent from the people. It required a \$1,000 bond to get \$1,000 of currency. The volume of circulation was limited to the volume of bonds, and a dollar was withdrawn in payment for the bonds. That is the currency principle. That is the currency principle. That is the currency principle. That is the currency principle.

## Gold Dollar Vanishes

California newspapers are remarking the disappearance of the gold dollar. For fifty years it held its own against the national bank note, but succumbing to the Federal reserve note. The reason for this is that the Federal reserve bank accepts worn gold only for its gold basis, but accepts the new bank note at its face value. The only safe place for gold is in bank vaults. There it is safe, but it is not in circulation. No holder of one ever lost a dollar. Yet it was left for the Federal reserve note to displace the gold. What is the explanation?

The result is a currency which is both cheaper and better. The cheaper money is driving out the dearer not because the cheaper currency has depreciated, as in previous unhappy experiences, but because it is for all purposes, except melting, better than the gold. Several perfectly good paper dollars can be supplied for hand-to-hand use for less than a dollar, and the cost of printing is less than the loss and cost of coining, and the basis of issue need be only in part gold. The currency is not limited to the bonds, dollar for dollar, but is limited only by the gold reserve and the volume of commercial assets, which reinforces the gold; that is to say, there is no limit to the future supply of currency except the sky, since it is impossible to exhaust both the stock of gold and commercial assets.

There has been the practice of California banks to keep full weight gold and to pay light gold. That triumph of experience over carelessness has died a natural death, succumbing to dollars of currency, using round numbers, and gave the loss by wear and tear, which he has accepted up to \$250 for each year for each million, and little schemes for making him accept larger loss will come to an end with the issue of gold. Nobody will lose anything from the Federal reserve notes, any more than they ever have on national bank notes, but everybody will profit by the better and more convenient money.